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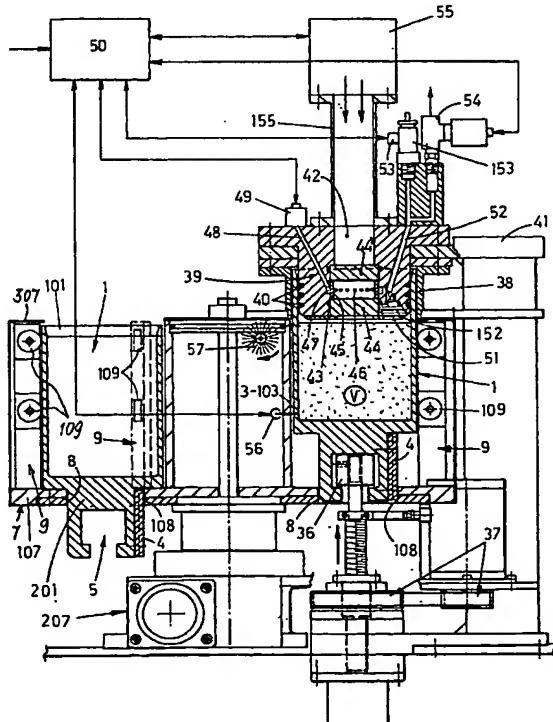
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(54) Title: MACHINE AND METHOD FOR TREATING PRODUCTS WITH MICROWAVES



(57) Abstract: The machine comprises a plurality of identical containers (1), of suitable shape and suitable capacity, preferably having flared mouths and round cross sections, which, by the action of a carousel (7) or any other suitable conveyor means, are cyclically made to interact with the following operating stations: a first station which shreds the containers with their contents, in such a way as to form a finely shredded product which, by suitable means, is fed into each container in predetermined constant amounts, is compacted and is suitably moistened, the mouth of each container being protected and kept clean by suitable means; a second station in which the mouth of the container (1) is closed to form a seal by a piston (39) which communicates by means of a wave guide with the magnetron (55) which generates the necessary microwaves for the sterilization of the waste in the container. Suitable means control the pressure and temperature within the container, in such a way that the waste is treated at the specified temperature and for the time required to ensure neutralization of any bacterial load present in the waste, while on completion of sterilization, the treatment container is brought to atmospheric pressure and removed from the said piston; a station, if required, for removing any excess liquid contained in the sterilized waste, while the mouth of the container is suitably protected and kept clean; and a station which discharges the treated waste from the container, while the mouth of the said treatment container is protected and kept clean by suitable means, so that it can subsequently interact and form a seal with the piston of the sterilization station.